

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/031,318

Examiner

Rodney M. Lindsey

Applicant(s)

BASSON ET AL.

Art Unit

3765

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the papers filed April 21, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-27,29-31,35-50,28,32-34,51-53 (renumbered 1-41, respectively).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

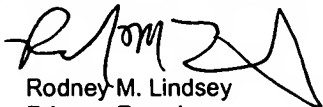
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Rodney M. Lindsey
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3765

that Applicant would address the drawing and specification objections by Amendment.

Interview
OK
RZ
It was also emphasized that the applied prior art documents failed to disclose or suggest, among other things, hooking pins 15 arranged on the shell 2 and that the first and second accessories have locking pieces 16 that detachably engage and receive the pins 15.

The Examiner disagreed and explained that the device 12 in Figs. 5 and 6 of BAUDOU could possibly be characterized as a pin.

Applicant also pointed out that col. 3, lines 65-67 of BAUDOU characterizes the devices 11 as cylinders that receive studs, and that Fig. 1 clearly shows such cylinder devices 11 functioning as receiving devices and not as pins. In response, the Examiner agreed to consider such arguments in a timely-filed amendment.

Status of the Certified Priority Document

The Examiner has acknowledged Applicant's claim to foreign priority, but indicated on the form PTOL-326 that "None of" of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received from the PCT International Bureau.

Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to MPEP 1828 which indicates that, with regard to a U.S. National Stage Application, it is not Applicant's responsibility to provide the same when the priority document has been filed with the PCT International Bureau.

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicant is attaching hereto a form PCT/IB/304